

Title: *Making Your Life Count*

It is not by accident that you and I are living today. It is God's desire for us to discover the very purpose He created us to live.

It is only when we are connected to Christ, do we find our true meaning and purpose in life.

Eph. 1:11 – *It is in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for... part of the overall purpose He is working out in everything and in everyone.*

The very reason and purpose of our existence can only be found in Christ.

Rick Warren said, that *“having this understanding will reduce our stress, simplify our decisions, increase our satisfaction, and most importantly, prepare us for eternity.”*

One of the greatest pursuits in life is to discover and fulfil God's purpose in our life.

Our life is a gift from God. What we do with our life is our gift to God and others! God wants us to fulfil the very call, the very purpose that He has placed in our lives.

How can we know our purpose in life and where do we start?

Mark 3:13-15 -

13 And He... called to Him those He Himself wanted. 14 Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, 15 and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons.

Firstly, **we are called to Him.**

To know Him is to know the purpose of life.

To know your Maker, the Designer of life, is the key to know your life's purpose.

Ex. Everything that you see, every invention that we have today has a specific purpose.

And to know the purpose of it, you need to ask the one who designed it.

Read *Genesis 1:26 and Hebrews 12:1-2*

In all our decisions in life, in the day of reckoning, you and I are accountable to Him, not to anyone else.

Read *Acts 17:31; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12*

Secondly, **we are appointed to be with Him.**

Mark 3:14 – Then *He appointed* twelve, *that they might be with Him.*

We are not only called to Him, but we are appointed to be with Him.

We fail to realise that the primary reason God has called us to Him is **to be with Him.**

Jesus has called us to be with Him. We need to have a deep, personal and intimate relationship with Him before we get to do the works of God.

Matt. 7:21-23 - “*On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name... and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’*”

Here it says, “I never **knew** you...”

The word “***know***” in Greek means a personal ongoing, growing relationship with the person. In this appointment, God speaks and reveals His will and His plan to us. Read ***Mark 4:34***.

The only way we can be effective in life while fulfilling God’s purpose is when we have those regular appointments to be with Him.

That's when we charge ourselves – through prayer and studying His Word.

It is like leaving your phone connected to the power source.

What must I do that I might work the works of God?

John 6:28-29 - *What must I do that I might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."*

We cannot truly do the works of God on our own. Paul in **Romans 7:18** says, *"For I know that in me (that is my flesh) nothing good dwells."*

It must be something that is initiated by God.

Jesus said that for us to do the works of God we need to allow God to work in us, within our hearts, to put faith (right believing) so that we may experience God in a very real and personal way.

Faith, right believing, is not a passive word but an **action word**.

Our faith in Jesus always compels us to do something. Read **John 14:12** and **Eph. 2:10**

Doing God's work must be our way of life.

Revelation 3:15 says, *“I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you are cold or hot.”*

In His message to the church of Laodicea, the writer may have had in mind two springs in the region...

The hot mineral springs at Hierapolis and the pure cold water springs of Colosse.

The hot springs at Hierapolis were seen as ***having healing powers*** and the pure cold water springs of Colosse ***provided refreshment***.

The believers in the church at Laodicea brought neither healing to the spiritually ill nor refreshment to those who were weary.

They were lukewarm (indifferent) and of no help to anyone.

This indifference can be broken down only when we begin to become passionate for His Presence, for His Word and passionate for the lost.

Jesus our greatest example.

1. *Jesus was able to fulfil His purpose because He knew the Father had called Him.*

He was always in communion with the Father.

Read *Luke 6:12; Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16*

2. Jesus was exactly like the hot mineral springs at Hierapolis, who brought healing to those who were broken and brought deliverance to those who were bound by sin. Read **1 John 1:9.**

3. Jesus was exactly like the pure cold water springs of Colosse that brought refreshment to those who were weary. Read **Matt. 11:28-30.**

There are people who need rest because they are tired and weary. Others need rest because they don't have peace with God and because they don't have the peace of God. Our soul will remain restless until we rest our soul in God.

“The very purpose of our existence can only be found in Christ.”